



TERM 5 NEWSLETTER - 2022

SPONNE NEWS

The official newsletter of Sponne School

Sponne Science Block Completed!



Sponne Science Block

The science block extension at Sponne School has now been completed and is open for teaching! For the past few weeks Students have been using the block for lessons and enjoying their new classrooms.

Click [HERE](#) to read more.



In This Issue:

Sports News

- County tennis win
- ROKiT Racing Star

Other News

- Celebrating the Queen's Jubilee
- Silverstone Park School Programme

... And more!

Follow us on social media to stay up to date with latest news



[SponneSchool](#)



[SponneSchool](#)



Dear Parents and Carers

It would appear that, to a large extent, some normality has finally returned to schools with very low numbers of Covid cases this term amongst staff and students. The accumulative impact of the last two years has taken a toll on many of us, however, with your support and that of my staff, I really believe that your children/our students have managed this time incredibly well. This is evidenced in their high attendance, their positive focus and their determination and commitment to simply get on with life and to enjoy it.

In the newsletter you can see that many enhancement activities have been taking place this term including an inspiring careers day for Year 8 run by the Silverstone Parks Schools Programme. We have also seen students completing their Duke of Edinburgh expeditions and individual student success in tennis and motor racing. We were very pleased to hear that 3 of the 80 music groups invited to play at the National Festival of Music for Youth later in the summer are from Spodne and our congratulations to all of those involved on this achievement.

At last the extension to our science block, financed by an allocation of money from the development opposite the race course, has been completed and lessons are now taking place in the 3 new laboratories. Our plan is to use subsequent money to replace all of our temporary classrooms by building a new faculty block. However, it may take some time before any new money is released as this is determined by the occupancy rates.

Finally I'd like to report on how well our Year 11 and 13 students have settled into their exams and to wish them all my very best for the next 4 weeks. If you are interested in Art then those who have completed GCSE and A-Level qualifications this year will be exhibiting their work on Tuesday 7th June in the school hall at the end of the day.

Can I take this opportunity to wish you all a relaxing half term holiday and I hope you enjoy your jubilee celebrations.

Iain Massey

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Iain Massey". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Headteacher

Parking outside of school

Please park considerately and legally outside of school. We have had a few incidents recently where our neighbours' driveways have been blocked and issues with cars being parked too close to the pedestrian crossing. You MUST NOT park on the crossing or in the area covered by the zig-zag lines.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Sports News

County tennis win

Jake Reynolds (yr9) was selected to play for U14 Boys Northants tennis team for the County Cup Competition. Over 2 days they beat all the other county teams in their table which were; Warwickshire, Staffordshire, Oxfordshire & North Wales. As they won the event they will move on to the next round in 2 weeks at Nottingham.

Good luck to Jake and his team mates!



Monica Boulton Ramos crowned ROKiT Racing Star

Racing Star has brought together pioneers in motorsport to create an exciting new talent competition in which the winners have a chance to win a racing seat in Formula 4!

Sponne student, Monica, put in an amazingly calm performance to be crowned the female winner of the Grand Final on 15 May. She wins the fantastic prize of professional driver training from the UK's sports governing body, Motorsport UK, to prepare her to drive for the ROKiT Formula 4 Racing Star team and race in the 2023 British F4 Championship.

The innovative scheme, spearheaded by former President of the FIA Single Seater Commission Bob Fernley and ROKiT, is unique to British motorsport and seeks to not only unearth the next generation of talented youngsters, but also to remove the cost barrier to compete.

"Women are hugely under-represented in motor racing, and I wanted to give an opportunity to a new talent," added Fernley, who first conceived the programme. "Monica fits the bill. She is a talented gamer and now we want to take that talent and translate into performance in a real car in the real world. It is the opportunity of a lifetime, and I am sure she will grasp it."

We know you will be great Monica, go for it!

For more Sponne sports news and fixture results, Follow [@SponnePE](#) on twitter [Click Here](#)



THANK YOU

Towcester Hockey Club

**SPONNE SCHOOL WERE VERY FORTUNATE
TO BE ABLE TO USE THE NEW ASTRO
PITCHES AT TOWCESTRIANS FOR FREE LAST
TERM.**

**THE STUDENTS THAT WENT TO THE CLUB
HAD A GREAT EXPERIENCE USING THE
FACILITIES AT TOWS.**

**SPECIAL THANKS TO JOANNA GREGORY
FOR ASSISTING.**

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON HOCKEY AT TOWCESTRIANS:
[HTTPS://WWW.TOWCESTRIANS.CO.UK/SPORTS/TOWCESTRIANS-HOCKEY/](https://www.towcestrians.co.uk/sports/towcestrians-hockey/)

Silverstone Park Schools Programme

Year 8 & 9 students “engaged and inspired” as Silverstone Park Schools Programme events return!

Senior secondary school staff have praised the return of the Silverstone Park Schools Programme after three high impact careers awareness sessions between their students and local business professionals.

More than 600 young people at The Buckingham School, Kingsthorpe College in Northampton and Sponne School in Towcester were able to quiz leading figures from business across a variety of industry sectors about career pathways and future opportunities in the world of work.

CLICK [HERE](#) for images from each of the events (Kingsthorpe’s was online due to the Covid situation).

Meeting with the programme’s network of business volunteers has been deliberately timed to give the students (Years 8 and 9) greater insight into the types of careers available prior to them making their final GCSE choices.

The students will also get a second opportunity to meet businesses when they are invited to Silverstone Park in July to tour companies there – many of them operating in advanced engineering, manufacturing, electronics and software development.

Activities delivered by the Silverstone Park Schools Programme (#SPSchools) at each school included speed networking and masterclasses.

Suzy Pykett, Buckingham School’s Head of Sixth Form, commented: “This is the second time we have welcomed the Silverstone Park Schools Programme and the energy throughout the event was brilliant.

“The students were engaged and inspired by the business volunteers’ career stories – which resonated deeply with many – and the range of activities.

“Teachers have said how impressed they were with the scale, impact and professional feel of the event; parents have talked of the insightful conversations they have had subsequently at home with their children.

“The experience has really got students thinking about where their interests lie, the possibilities, the world of work and how to adapt in order to pursue a career.”

Diane Fisher, Kingsthorpe’s Strategic Lead for Careers enthused: “A massive thank you from all of us at KC. We do appreciate the time it takes to organise events like this and all the volunteers who give up their time for our students. [Continue Reading...](#)



Continued...

"It's been a fantastic experience for all of our Year 9 students who have been affected so much by Covid. Our students are so lucky to be part of this programme.

"The Silverstone Park event has also been a great reminder of how far we have come. It was inspiring to have Year 12 students – among our first students to take part in the programme four years ago – supporting the event. It highlighted how far they have travelled and the responsible young people they have become."

Ann Warner, Sponne School's Learning Lead for PSHE, said: "Being able to welcome local employers into Sponne again to work with our Year 8 students has been a privilege.

"Our students engaged with all the activities and spoke positively about the opportunity to hear from people in local businesses and finding out about technologies of the future.

"Sponne School's motto is to 'Dream, Believe, Achieve' and this event helped our young people to see the opportunities that could await them and to dream of possible futures for themselves.

"We look forward to being able to take some of our students to Silverstone Park to show them local industries in action and to continue our partnership with MEPC and the Silverstone Park Schools Programme."



Enterprise Advisors Visit

On Friday 29th April Year 12 students met one of our Enterprise Advisors, Rachel Collar, a local HR consultant who gave a presentation about CVs. This enabled our students to create their own CVs ready for an afternoon CV workshop on the 13th May. Over 40 local employers gave up their afternoon to meet with our students and review their CVs to help them get ready for their working lives. The buzz in the hall was amazing and the students got so much from the event; some even securing their work shadowing placement at the same time!

Student quotes:

"I received good feedback on my CV, as I wasn't sure whether it was good or not before this event."

"It was very informative as to what gets the attention of a possible employer when sorting through CV's"

"I was able to talk about CVs and applying for jobs in general with someone who had experience in the area"

Employer were asked what went well:

"I enjoyed hearing from the students I worked with and they came prepared and willing to engage."

Very well organised, smoothly ran, students were motivated and well prepared, staff were very helpful. Reception staff welcoming and organised as appreciate it was a lot of people turning up at the same time!"

"The selection of students were well matched to the industry and business I work in"

"Students having prepared CVs in advance and having had "proper" guidance on doing so from a "real world" HR consultant. Plus the skill matching to ensure that I was able to give more relevant guidance to the specific students."

"Students were in engaging and event very well planned. Good thought provoking outcomes for young people to action on their CVs and applications"

We are really appreciative of the time and effort given by our local employers to share their expertise with our students.

Other News

Child Exploitation and Gangs Awareness Day

On 27th April we held a successful Child Exploitation and Gangs Awareness Day at Sponne School. Throughout the day we held assemblies and workshops for Years 8-10 delivered by Anton Noble and his team from Guiding Young Minds. The local police and dog handlers held an assembly for Year 7 students on making positive choices and keeping safe. Year 7 students also had the opportunity to find out about the role of a dog handler and meet Ink the police dog.

There have been many negative stories in the news recently about young people being exploited, and being groomed into gangs. Unfortunately, Northamptonshire has had a high number of stabbings and youth violence in the past few years and young people are being recruited into gangs from larger cities exploiting younger people through 'County Lines'. At Sponne we feel it is vital to raise awareness of these issues and to show students where they can access support. We have been working closely with the Police and other agencies to provide our students with the education they need to make positive choices about what they do.

Anton Noble from Guiding Young Minds is an Urban Youth Specialist in Gang culture and Youth violence. He has his own 'lived experience' in gangs, having broken free from his past. He is now acknowledged as one of the UK's leading Mentors working with young people caught up in gangs, serious youth violence and exploitation Anton won the Most Inspirational Male Role Model of the Year in Northamptonshire 2019 and was featured in the Channel 4 documentary 'Britain's Young Drug Runners', which won the best documentary award in 2019.

Students were very engaged throughout the day, and asked excellent questions. They have reported that they found the day enjoyable and informative. We'd like to thank Guiding Young Minds, K9 and the police for taking the time to help our students learn about this very important issue.



Other News

Sponne Brass Band

Congratulations to Sponne Brass Band, Jazz Orchestra and Sponnaissance who have been selected to perform in the Birmingham Symphony Hall in the National Festival of Music For Youth in July. This is an amazing achievement. Well done to all.

The Bronze DofE assessed expedition

The Bronze DofE assessed expedition, over the weekend, was a great success with all 70 Year 10 and 11 students passing their expedition section of the award.

Once again the outdoor activity leaders were impressed with our students behaviour as well as their competence and aptitude.

- Mr O'Grady

Jubilee Virtual Balloon Race 29th May 2022 - 5th June 2022



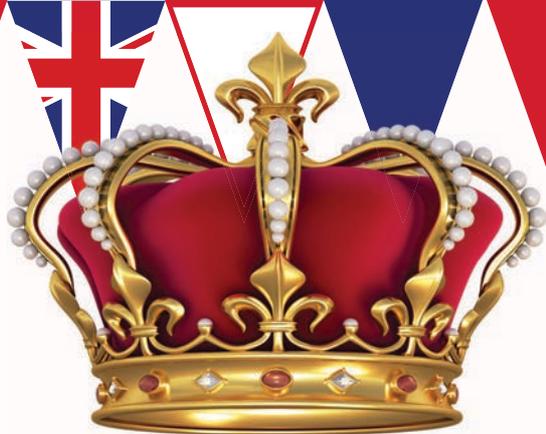
Sponne PFA are hosting a virtual balloon race to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee!

The balloons will be launched at 12pm on Sunday 29th May 2022 and the race will finish at 12pm on Sunday 5th June 2022.

Watch the progress of your balloon throughout the week by logging on and look at the leader board.

This competition is open to everyone, so why not challenge your friends and family to a little eco-friendly balloon race competition?

Prizes: Platinum Prize (1st) of £50, Gold Prize (2nd) of £30, Silver Prize (3rd) of £20 Profits from the race will go towards Sponne School funds.



Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

Queen's Platinum Jubilee Weekend

The Towcester Platinum Jubilee Committee, led by the Rotary Club of Towcester, are coordinating celebration activities across Towcester. The main event will be a family-friendly and fun community event, organised by a collaboration of local voluntary organisations, on the Towcester Recreation Ground.

<https://www.towcester-tc.gov.uk/platinum-jubilee.html>

Towcester Platinum Jubilee Fayre

A fun, community event in the centre of Towcester to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Lots of family friendly activities and entertainment throughout the day from local community groups and businesses.

<https://platinumjubilee.gov.uk/event/towcester-platinum-jubilee-fayre/>

Beacons to light up West Northants for Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Beacons will be lit simultaneously across the county at 9.45pm on Thursday, 2 June 2022 in events organised by West Northants Council (WNC), Brackley Town Council and Towcester Town Council to mark the Queen's 70 years on the throne.

<https://www.aboutmyarea.co.uk/Northamptonshire/Towcester/NN12/News/Local-News/335456-Beacons-to-light-up-West-Northants-for-Queen%E2%80%99s-Platinum-Jubilee>



Celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II with this impressive trifle, winner of the Platinum Pudding competition.

Preparation time - **over 2 hours**

Cooking time - **30 mins to 1 hour**

Serves - **Serves 20 (1/2 recipe for 10 people)**

Cheat sheet available at the bottom of the page.

View the recipe at BBC Food

https://www.bbc.co.uk/food/recipes/lemon_swiss_roll_and_42467

Dates for your diary

Monday 30th May - Friday 3rd June

Monday 6th June
Thursday 9th June
Thursday 16th June
Thursday 23rd June
Friday 24th June
Thursday 30th June
Thursday 30th June
30th June & 1st July
27th June - 8th July
27th June - 1st July
1st - 11th July
Monday 4th July
Tuesday 5th July
Wednesday 6th July
Thursday 8th July
11th & 12th July
11th - 22nd July
12th - 16th July
14th & 15th July
18th & 19th July
18th - 28th July
Thursday 21st July

21st July - 31st August

Thursday 18th August
Thursday 25th August

1st & 2nd September

Monday 5th September
Tuesday 6th September

HALF TERM

First day of summer term (**Blue week**)
Year 12 Parents Evening (remote)
Year 9 Parents Evening
Year 7A Parents Evening (in school)
Year 11 Prom
Year 7B Parents Evening (in school)
Year 13 Summer Prom
Year 8 HPV vaccinations
Year 10 mocks
Year 12 mocks
Year 8 trips to Bletchley Park
Sponne Local Governing Body Meeting
Sixth Form Science Fayre
Year 12 Geography Field trip to Birmingham
Sponne Orchestra Birmingham Symphony Hall
Sixth Form Induction Days
Year 10 work experience
Year 8 Germany trip
New Year 7 induction days
Sponne Band Tour
World Challenge Trip
July Last day of summer term

August SUMMER HOLIDAYS

A-Level Results
GCSE Results

INSET DAYS - SCHOOL CLOSED

Year 7 and Year 12 Induction Day
Years 8, 9, 10, 11 & 13 back to school



2022

**GCSE &
A level
ART Exhibition**

**Open to
Friends,
Family & Students
In the School Hall**

**Tues
7th June
3.30
to 7pm**

Important Communications from our Schoolwear Supplier

As we approach the Summer, we begin to prepare for Back to School and our uniform supplier, SWI is making preparations too.

As a response to your feedback, SWI understand the importance of being able to communicate with you directly, so that they can keep you updated and in-the-loop as Back to School approaches.

In order to keep you informed, we ask that you sign up to their email communications via the [SWI Homepage](#) or [create account form](#) to allow updates from SWI to reach your inbox.

Why Shop Early

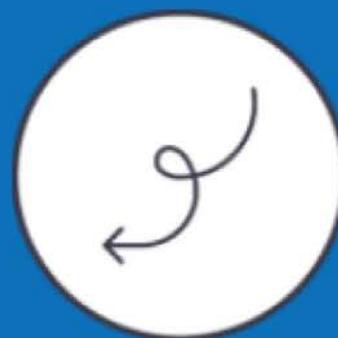
Our message from 2021 to shop early in June and July remains the same for 2022, and there are plenty of benefits for parents who shop early with us this year...



Early-bird Deals & Offers



Entry to our prize draw



Free extended returns

Get in touch

Tel: 01928 752 610 | Email: customerservice@swi.co.uk | swischoolwear.co.uk

Essential School Equipment



All students should have the following equipment...

- A Pencil Case (this must be transparent for students taking exams)
- Black Pens (at least 3, not gel)
- Blue Pens (at least 3, not gel)
- Purple Pens (at least 2, not gel)
- Pencils (at least 2)
- Pencil Colours
- Pencil Sharpener
- Rubber
- Ruler
- Maths Set (Compass, Protractor)
- Scientific Calculator
 - Recommended Casio fx-83GT PLUS or fx-85GT PLUS
- 3.5mm Wired Earphones

If you have any issues with this please speak to your form tutor!



Please remember to bring a reusable water bottle to school with you



Drinking water :

- Improves energy levels and brain function
- Improves concentration and focus
- Prevents headaches
- Is healthy for joints and teeth and helps circulate blood!

Stay Hydrated!





Are you passionate about your career and want to share that enthusiasm with younger minds?

Sponne Sixth Form are holding their annual **Business Networking Event**. A chance for students to speak with employers and ask about their profession, what their career path was and what a typical day looks like.

Do you think you could offer an hour of your time to inspire the next generation?

.....
Thursday 14th July 2pm
.....



If you are interested, please contact alumni@sponne.org.uk



HOWKINS &
HARRISON

We're proud to be supporting Sponne School with our 'For Schools' programme.

On completion of every house sale made through the programme, we will give Sponne School £500.

How can you take part?

- If you're thinking of selling your home get in touch with us for your free, no obligation valuation
- Mention the For Schools Programme and Sponne School
- We will market and sell your home
- On completion of the sale, we'll donate £500 directly to Sponne School

Howkins & Harrison, investing in our future and local community.

Call Martin Broadbend (former Sponne pupil) for more details; 01327 353575
or visit [howkinsandharrison.co.uk/about-us/supporting-local-communities](https://www.howkinsandharrison.co.uk/about-us/supporting-local-communities)

Howkins & Harrison LLP, 98a Watling Street, Towcester NN12 6BB





Service, Compassion, Responsibility

If you are worried about debt, benefits, housing
and anything else.....

Drop in to see an advisor

Every Tuesday between 12 noon – 2pm
St John Ambulance Hall, Islington Road, Towcester, NN12 6AU

*Come along and have
a confidential chat
over a cuppa*



Call us on: **07724 832043** and leave a message
Email us at: **info@towcester.foodbank.org.uk**
Message us via Facebook: **@towcesterfoodbank**



www.towcester.foodbank.org.uk

Charity No: 1157338